

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05

ACDA-05 CU-02 SCA-01 VO-03 /090 W

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R 301348Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 407

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 2384

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, CGEN, PINS, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: BULGARIA: TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

REFS: A. STATE 253151 (NOTAL); B. STATE 217917; C. SOFIA 2277

1. WE RECEIVED INDICATIONS LAST YEAR THAT GOB WOULD RAISE WITH US A RECIPROCAL LIFTING OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. WE THEREFORE HAD CONSIDERED IT WOULD BE BEST TO HAVE BULGARIA IN THE DEMANDEUR POSITION AND, INDEED, TRIED TO MOVE THEM ALONG DURING THE INGERSOLL VISIT BY HINTING TO AMBASSADOR POPOV THAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY IF THE QUESTION WERE RAISED DURING HIS VISIT HERE. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER POPOV FAILED TO UNDERSTAND, BUT IN ANY CASE THE GOB DID NOT RAISE THE QUESTION WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL.

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2. THOUGH THE BULGARIANS HAVE NOT PICKED UP ON THE ISSUE, IN THE SPECIFIC CONTEXT OF MY FORTHCOMING REPRESENTATION ON CSCE I SEE SOMETHING TO BE GAINED FROM OUR RAISING THE MATTER, RATHER THAN WAITING FOR A BULGARIAN PROPOSAL. THE OTHER POINTS WHICH I WOULD MAKE ON CSCE ALL INVOLVE ACTIONS WHICH WE FEEL THE ACT OF HELSINKI OBLIGES THE GOB TO TAKE. AN OFFER TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUAL LIFTING OF TRAVEL AND POINT OF ENTRY RESTRICTIONS BECOMES AN EARNEST OF OUR OWN WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RECIPROCAL ACTIONS IN THE INTEREST OF GREATER OPENNESS BETWEEN THE US AND BULGARIA.

3. IF THIS IS ACCEPTABLE, IT SHOULD BE REGARDED AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE SCENARIO PROPOSED IN REF C. NATURALLY, I WOULD AVOID ANY COMMITMENT TO TAKE ACTION IN THE ABSENCE OF RECIPROCAL BULGARIAN ACTION. I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT OUR CSCE PRESENTATION SHOULD COME AFTER THE VISIT OF BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE HATTERSLEE, WHOSE VISIT HAS NOW BEEN PUSHED BACK SLIGHTLY TO EARLY DECEMBER. DEPT MAY WISH TO QUERY THE BRITISH AS TO WHETHER THEY INTEND TO USE THAT VISIT TO DISCUSS FOLLOWING UP THE ACT OF HELSINKI, OR SUGGEST THAT THEY DO SO.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

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06 JUL 2006

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